

Assignment TV

By **TERRENCE O'FLAHERTY**

It's nice to go out to dinner with The Swells every now and then—especially when someone else is paying for it. It's a chance to practice French (even though the waiter usually turns out to be German) and an opportunity to observe Rich People Having Fun as well as Poor People on Expense Accounts pretending to be Rich People Having Fun.

If you can't tell which is which, just ask the waiter. He ALWAYS knows the difference.

The setting was an elegant restaurant, and the occasion was to meet Graham Kerr, television's new kitchen comedian who is making his debut this month in most of the major cities in the country as "The Galloping Gourmet." I had a grand time but the next morning as I struggled to reassemble in my mind the events of the preceding evening, the only thing I could recall about Kerr with any clarity was his wife's knees. This may take some explaining.

KERR is an attractive young Scotsman, born in England, who lives in Australia and tapes his TV shows in Canada because Australia doesn't have color-TV yet. ("When we stop backing you up in Vietnam we may be able to afford color!")

All this knocking around the Commonwealth has enriched his accent which has great appeal for Americans. (Can you imagine *Hermione Gingold* WITHOUT one?) Kerr's name is pronounced "care" which can be very confusing—particularly when it has taken me 20 years to learn to call Deborah Kerr, "karr."

Mrs. Kerr-Karr-Care is pretty, petite, thirtyish and aggressive in a Mod sort of way. She produces "The Galloping Gourmet" and this was her first night in the United States. She walked right over and introduced herself:

"Hello. I'm Treena and I'm

going to kiss you because I always like to kiss strangers." Obviously she's going to be a big hit in this country. With TV critics anyway. Besides, it was the first time I'd ever been kissed by a TV director. "Hello" said her husband brightly. "I'm Graham and I'm not going to kiss you until I read your review."

Oh well, you can't have everything!

Kerr ordered a splendid dinner with three wines—all from California. ("I always order the wines of the province," he explained.)

BUT HIS TV personality, so far, is a combination of corny comedy and less expensive cuts of meat which may be a reflection of the sophistication of the Ottawa studio audience as well as the Australian frontier cuisine, which is just a step beyond Dodge City. (Gosh, now I'll NEVER get kissed!)

Yet his TV manner has a bumptious charm and SOMEONE had to bridge the gap between Chef Boy-ar-dee and Julia Child, and he seems to be doing this successfully.

Somehow, while comparing the merits of Australia and the States, we got on the subject of women. This can be dangerous. Particularly after several bottles of local wine. "The shortest mini-skirts in the world are in Australia," announced Mrs. Kerr who then made a move to climb up on her chair.

Years of experience have taught me that it is imprudent to impede a lady when she wants to perform in public. In a moment she was standing on the red velvet seat. "I do have attractive knees, don't you think?" she asked.

I was never able to answer because as I looked, all I could see was the expression on the face of the lady at the next table. And it would have slowed the galloping to a trot.

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FRESH KIST FRUIT DRINKS
Grape • Orange • Pineapple • Grapefruit PUNCH
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\$3.59 FIFTH
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PIPING HOTBAKERY
WHIPPED CREAM CHOCOLATE ROLL
Reg. 79c **69c**
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1 1/2-lb. loaf **35c**
CHERRY-FILLED DANISH COFFEE CAKE
Reg. 73c **59c**

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WILNO KOSHER **SALAMI**
Reg. \$1.69 lb. **\$1.39 lb.**
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Reg. \$1.19 lb. **\$1.09 lb.**
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Reg. 49c lb. **39c lb.**

ALL FLAVORS **JELL-O GELATIN**
5 large 6-oz. pkgs. **\$1**

NEW MAXWELL HOUSE **INSTANT COFFEE**
10-oz. jar **\$1.29**

HILSDALE SALAD PIECES **Bartlett Pears** 3 no. 2 1/2 cans
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NEW! FOOD GIANT **SLICED DANISH 4x6** Pork Shoulder **PICNIC** Better Than Ham 4-Oz. Pkg. **49c**
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LYNN WILSON'S **ALL BEEF TAMALES** Pkg. of 2 **49c** Pkg. of 4 **59c**
THE REAL MCCOY ALL BEEF **CHILI BRICK** 1-lb. pkg. **69c**

OH-B-O PIZZA
CHEESE (16-oz.)
SAUSAGE OR PEPPERONI (16-oz.)
POTATO
Baked w/Cheese or Chives (12-oz.)
KOLD K
SIRLOIN TIP
CREAMED

Warrior Trails

By **Cathy Focarazzo**

"Spirit Week" was held at West High last week.

Seniors enjoyed the privilege of wearing pants and bermudas all week, a rare pleasure. Juniors joined in Tuesday, sophomores Wednesday, and the freshmen Thursday.

There were numerous other little presentations including a pie-eating contest Monday, where the participants were bombarded in the face with lemon meringue pie. There were also those thrilling egg throwing contests, which are immensely popular with the participants and a complete bore for the audience. Incidentally, the seniors won the pie-eating contest. I'm sure the Class of '69 is bursting with pride.

TUESDAY, Dave Ketchum, the kookie Agent 13 on "Get Smart" appeared in a special assembly at West. He's the guy who is always holed up in a mailbox, grandfather clock, locker, or trash can, ready to assist Maxwell Smart. Finally, he was unveiled to West, minus the props. It was definitely nice to have something really entertaining to pick up this spirited week.

Last week, I forgot to mention one of the senior personality categories. It was "most Athletic" and it was won by Gary Kendrick and Gay Smith. Sorry about that.

Last week West beat Mira

Costa in basketball. We've been on a welcome winning streak. Although we haven't won too many games, spirit has been good and fairly constant.

THE "MISS Drill Team U.S.A." pageant in Santa Monica was a real interesting gathering of pep-squads and drill teams from as far as Alaska and as close as Santa Monica itself.

The pageant was good and the talented girls who competed were all fabulous. It was interesting to note that a girl from Mira Costa, a member of the Bay League, won the title.

Saturday the Cheerleaders and the Song Queens were involved in competition at Mt. Sac.

Contract Awarded For Sewer

A \$46,919 contract to place a sewer in Normandie Avenue between 190th and Francisco streets in Carson has been awarded, according to Supervisor Kenneth Hahn.

The contract went to the Mercury Co. of El Monte. Mercury also will place a sewer in 196th street east of Normandie.

Low Traffic Death Rate Recorded

The city of Torrance has been honored for having the lowest number of traffic deaths in the nation among cities of 100,000 to 200,000 in population.

Police Lt. D.C. Cook, commander of the police department's traffic division, said the city recorded the lowest number of traffic deaths among 64 cities in its class during 1968.

Only five persons died in traffic accidents during 1968. A total of 8 were killed in 1967 and 16 died in 1966.

The award was made by the National Safety Council.

Heroes, Villains To Clash

Villains, heroes, and a sing-along add up to an evening of family entertainment as Showcase Theatre, 13752 S. Prairie Ave., Hawthorne, presents "Love Rides the Rails" each Friday and Saturday at 8:30 p.m. through March 29.

This old fashioned melodrama is directed by Paul Smith, who also stars as the villainous Simon Darloway. Producer is Tom Morton. Stage manager is Rick Morton.

Morland Cary's plot involves Darkway's efforts to take away the Walker Valley, Pine Bush, and Pacific Railroad from the timid Widow Hopewell (Darlene Hill and her demure daughter, Prudence (Joan Miller).

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S. HAWTHORNE